

# **PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**April 14, 2006**

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## NOTES

1. Called to order at 9:10 am by Doug Goad.
2. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS
  - Paul Davis – There is going to be a Wine Festival on June 10, 2006 here at Quail Botanical Gardens and approximately \$60 of the \$75 fee is donated directly to a non-profit organization.
  - Roger Utt – I was just wondering what the follow-up was on the Crest/South Lane issues that were brought up at the last meeting?
    - ♦ Brian Albright – We have had two additional meetings since the last Advisory meetings, both of which went very well. We have agreed on the plant palette for the park and the location the trees will be planted. We have a very aggressive plan for the planting. There are still a couple of areas that we can't get into yet because of the raptor nests, but those will be addressed as soon as possible. This same group is involved with a couple of the other parks in the area and there was some concern voiced about the possibility of tree removal at these parks and we reassured them that we have removed the trees that were identified.
  - Doug Goad – I wasn't at the last meeting, but from reading the minutes it really seems that this community made a deep connection with the park and it seems like we might want to start looking at groups like this and use their passion and care for the park to our advantage and work together to do good things for the parks. I was wondering if there is a way to incorporate a CSA into this area and get help to fund the area and help out the other areas that are in trouble as well.
    - ♦ Brian Albright – It is very difficult to make changes with the CSA because the boundaries and guidelines are set and any changes to fees, etc have to be voted on and approved.
  - John Carroll – On April 8<sup>th</sup> I was part of a fundraiser for the Friend of the Otay Valley Regional Park and we raised over \$1,300. We held the event at Otay Lakes County Park and had bike rides and hikes as well as fish tacos and it was a very successful and fun event.
  - Doug Goad – Is there going to be a trail from the Finney Overlook down to the OVRP trails?
    - ♦ Brian Albright - No, the slope is too steep from the overlook down into the valley.
3. Approval of March 10, 2006 Minutes
  - Approval of March 10, 2006 minutes  
No quorum. Postponed to May meeting.
4. DEPARTMENT REPORT – Brian Albright
  - The first weekend in May there is going to be a Trails Conference and Supervisor Dianne Jacob will be attending and receiving the top award for the County Trails

Program and her work on this. This is a great award for us too and Maryanne Vancio our Trails Coordinator will also be attending the conference.

- We had a meeting with the State of California grants team and it went very well. We also were able to take them on a few site visits and show them what we are doing with the grant funding we receive.
- At the California Parks and Recreation Society Conference DPR received 3 awards. The Casey Conrad Health and Fitness Award was given for DPR's health and fitness programs and our implementation of the County's Childhood Obesity Action Plan, an Award for our involvement in the CPRS District XII Greater San Diego Parks and Recreation Coalition and implementing efforts that include Hearts-N-Parks, Health Festivals, and more. And finally, the County's Trail Program received the "Best of the Best" award in the Neighborhood/Community Life category. DPR also presented an educational session at the Annual State Conference called "Adventure and Stewardship for At-Risk Youth".
- In addition, DPR received four awards at the CPRS District XII Awards and Installation Banquet at the Coronado Recreation Center. The Finney Overlook Project, Otay Valley Regional Park, received an Achievement Award for Facility Design. Melake Ghebrehiwet, Senior Project Manager received a Full-Time Professional Recognition Award for his outstanding contributions to the County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation. Christine Lafontant, Recreation Manager received an Award for her efforts addressing the physical activity and wellness needs of her respective communities and strategically offering healthy solutions; and, Jason Hemmens, Recreation Manager, received a Service Award for his involvement with District XII and Jason Hemmens was elected as President Elect to the CPRS District XII 2006-2007 Board of Directors.

#### 5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- PLDO and CSA Fund Balance Reports – Brian Albright
  - ◆ Distributed handouts of the current PLDO and CSA fund balances.
  - ◆ Not much has changed on these since last month.

#### 6. Opportunity for Members of Public to Speak on Any Items Not on Today's Agenda

- Julian Duval – I am the Director of Quail Botanical Gardens. The facility was opened in 1971, but the land was deeded to the County by Ms. Larabee in 1957. Since the opening the garden has been owned by the County and then in the late 70's we went private. We have a lot of events going on this morning, including our bamboo sale and an Easter Egg Hunt for the Make A Wish Foundation. If you look around you can see that this house was not a mansion that the Larabee's lived in, but the had 30 acres of ocean view property and there was an appreciation for the outdoors and it is so important to protect and preserve areas like this. One of our newer endeavors is to try and reach children, so we have started the seeds of wonder children's garden.

#### 7. ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at 9:45 am by Doug Goad.

#### TOUR OF FACILITY

##### ATTENDEES:

John Carroll, District 1

John Degenfelder, District 2

Doug Goad, District 3

Paul Davis, District 3  
Roger Utt, District 4  
Brian Albright, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation  
Sabrina Hicks, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation